REMARKS

This is a supplemental response to the Office Action dated September 25, 2003, in the above-identified application. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested. Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 2, 5-7, 9, and 11-19 stand rejected and claims 3, 4, 8, and 10 are objected to. In light of the supplemental remarks set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that each of the pending claims is in immediate condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 2, 5-7, 9, 11-14, 17, and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,606,593 ("Jarvinen"). Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Further to the remarks set forth in Applicant's initial response dated December 24, 2003, Applicant further submits that the device disclosed by Jarvinen is unlike Applicant's claimed device. Particularly, the device in Jarvinen cannot directly reduce the temporal fluctuation in the input signal to synthesis filter 112, i.e., excitation signal 212, because it does not use either the excitation itself or signals constituting the excitation when the gain is calculated. Generally, excitation is obtained by multiplying signal by gain. If the gain is calculated without considering the excitation itself and/or other signals which constitute the excitation, it is then necessary to reduce the temporal fluctuation in the energy of the excitation such that the temporal fluctuation in the energy of the signal is very small. Such a condition is satisfied where the signal is white noise. However, this condition is not satisfied in the case of general signals. In other words, Jarvinen assumes that the input signal is a white noise and calculates the gain from an LP residual signal which

is not concerned with the excitation and subsequently smoothes the gain to reduce the temporal fluctuation in the energy of the input signal to the synthesis filter. Jarvinen cannot reduce the temporal fluctuation in the energy of the excitation when the input signal is a general signal, i.e., not white noise.

In contrast, in the present invention, energy of excitation is directly calculated and the temporal fluctuation of the energy of the excitation is directly reduced. The excitation with sufficiently reduced temporal fluctuation is supplied to the input of the synthesis filter. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Jarvinen fails to disclose the excitation signal explicitly recited in Applicant's claims.

Applicant has responded to all of the rejections and objections recited in the Office Action. Reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner believes an interview would be of assistance, the Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Dated: January 8, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By_____

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